### **Comprehensive Transit Strategy for Milwaukee**







### **Global Cities: Culture and History**





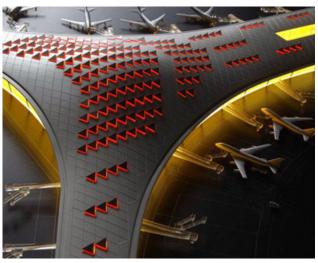




Milwaukee has world class cultural institutions and festivals, as well as a rich history

# **Global Cities: Dynamic Economy**









Milwaukee's corporations compete on a global scale

#### **Global Cities: Great Architecture**









Milwaukee has great architecture that has received international acclaim

#### **Global Cities: Mass Transit**









Yet Milwaukee's
transit
infrastructure has
not progressed to
keep us globally
competitive

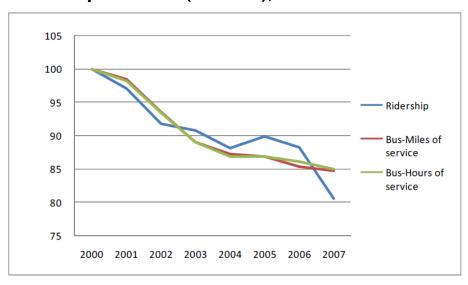
# Milwaukee County Transit System

 Over \$15 million annual shortfall beginning in 2010



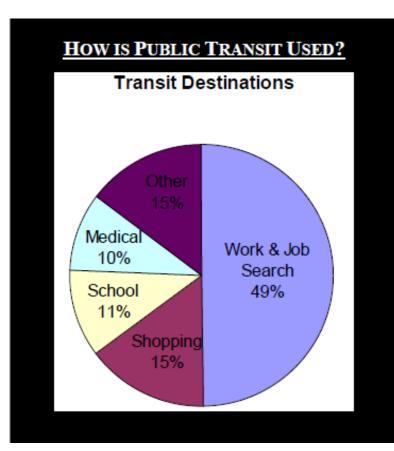
- Service cuts
- Fare increases
- Aging fleet
- Lean operations

### MCTS Fixed Route Bus Service Reductions and Ridership Declines (indexed), 2000-2007



Source: MCTS and Public Policy Forum

### **Regional Transit Authority**

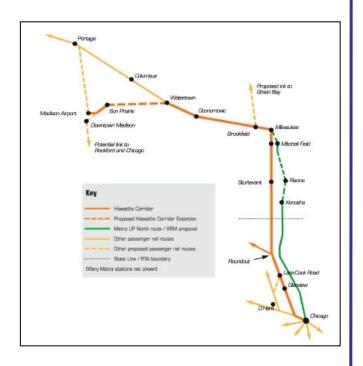


Source: Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Transit Authority

- Dedicated funding source for transit
- Regional cooperation among transit systems
   access to more job opportunities
- Important to the stability and growth of transit in Milwaukee

### **Transit Systems in Study**

1. Midwest Rail Initiative: High-speed rail connecting Milwaukee with Chicago, Madison and other major Midwestern cities.

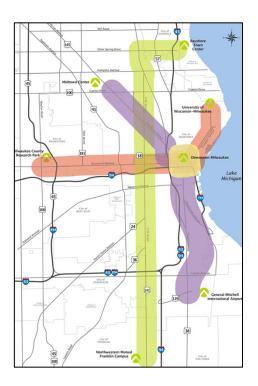


2. KRM: Commuter rail connecting Milwaukee with Racine, Kenosha and other suburbs.



#### 3. Milwaukee Connector



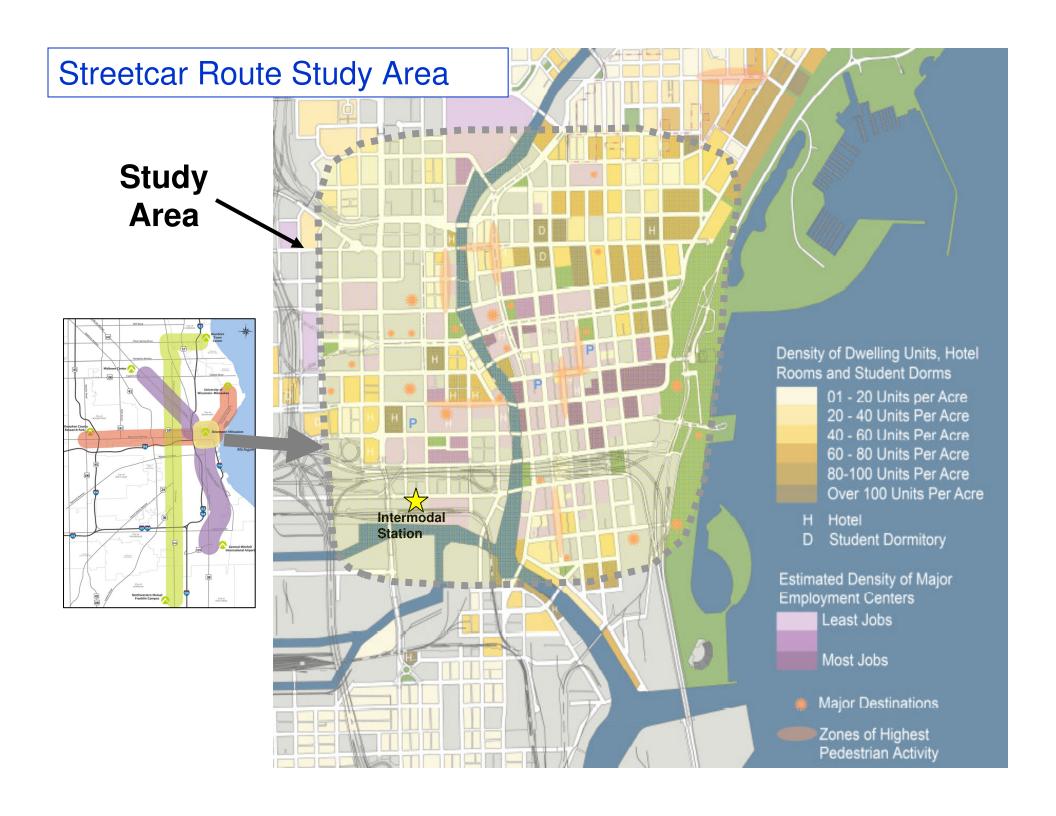


# Milwaukee Connector Background

- The Connector Study (ongoing)
- Public meetings held in February 2009
- 60/40 split of \$91.5M by Congress in March 2009
  - \$54.9M for DowntownStreetcar
  - + \$36.6M for Bus RapidTransit







#### What is a Streetcar?

- Fixed rail system modern vehicles fit in urban environments
- Stations/stops every 1 -3 blocks
- Operates in right traffic lane, preserving majority of on-street parking
- Quiet, electric power source
- Frequent service: 7-12 minutes during peak periods
- Higher vehicle capacity than a bus
- Examples: Portland, Seattle, Tacoma





#### **Streetcar Case Studies**



**Portland Streetcar** 

System Length:	2.4 mile initial line, now 4.0 miles
Year Opened:	2001-07
Daily Riders:	12,300 (Fall 2008)
Average Distance Between Stops:	1/5 miles (2 blocks)
Frequency of Service:	12-15 minute headway



**Seattle South Lake Union Line** 

System Length:	1.3 miles (track miles: 2.6)
Year Opened:	2007
Daily Riders:	1,500 (Fall 2008)
Average Distance Between Stops:	1/5 miles (2 blocks)
Frequency of Service:	15 minute headway



**Tacoma Link** 

System Length:	1.6 miles (track miles: 2.4)
Year Opened:	2003
Daily Riders:	2,900 (2008)
Average Distance Between Stops:	1/4 miles (3 blocks)
Frequency of Service:	10 minute headway

#### **Objectives for Streetcar System**

The Milwaukee Streetcar system will be a world class, cost-effective and environmentally-friendly transportation alternative that:

- Improves transit mobility to and between key residential, employment, and activity centers
- Supports the goals of the Downtown Plan and Comprehensive Neighborhood Plans
- Promotes economic development and creates predictability for future growth
- Attracts ridership due to quality of service, enhanced signage, route predictability and reduced travel times
- Is easily expandable as demand dictates and funds become available
- Integrates with existing and future transportation options
- Encourages pedestrian activity

### **Goals for Starter Streetcar System**

The main goals of the starter streetcar system are to:

- Improve Transit Utilization in the City of Milwaukee
- Connect Intermodal Station (Amtrak, KRM, high-speed rail and regional bus service) with the central business district, key destinations and attractions

#### Additional goals:

- Connect major parking garages with attractions
- Serve most major downtown traffic generators
- Promote new development (transit-oriented development)
- Serve high-density residential areas
- Follow simple and easy to understand route
- Create a system that can easily expand to nearby neighborhoods and destinations

### Who Will Use the Starter Streetcar System?









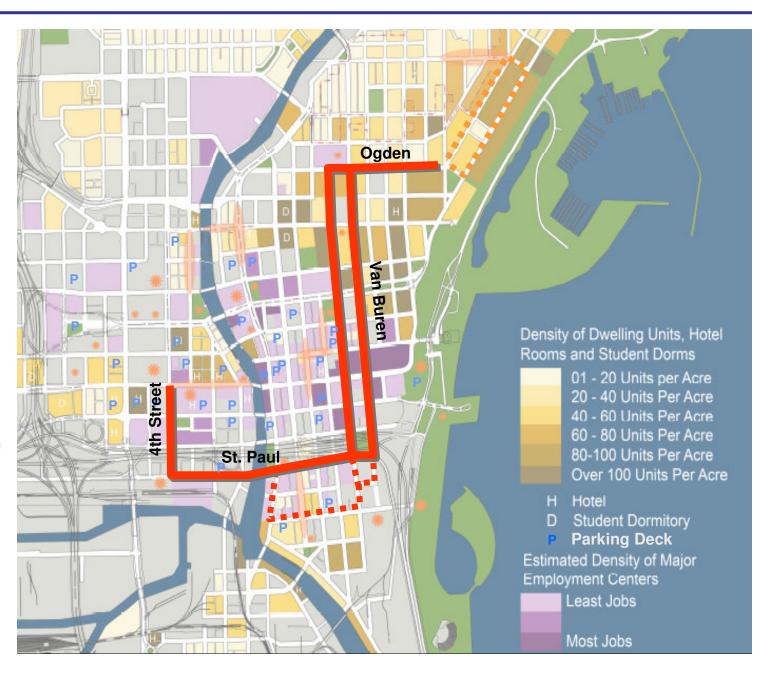
- Over 1 million annual passengers at Intermodal Station
- 77,500 daily downtown employees
- 5,500,000 annual downtown visitors
- 726,500 annual hotel stays
- 14,900 downtown residents (and growing)

# **Streetcar Alignment #1**

Ogden/Prospect to 4th/Wisconsin Route = 2.33 miles

= = sub-option

= = possible extension

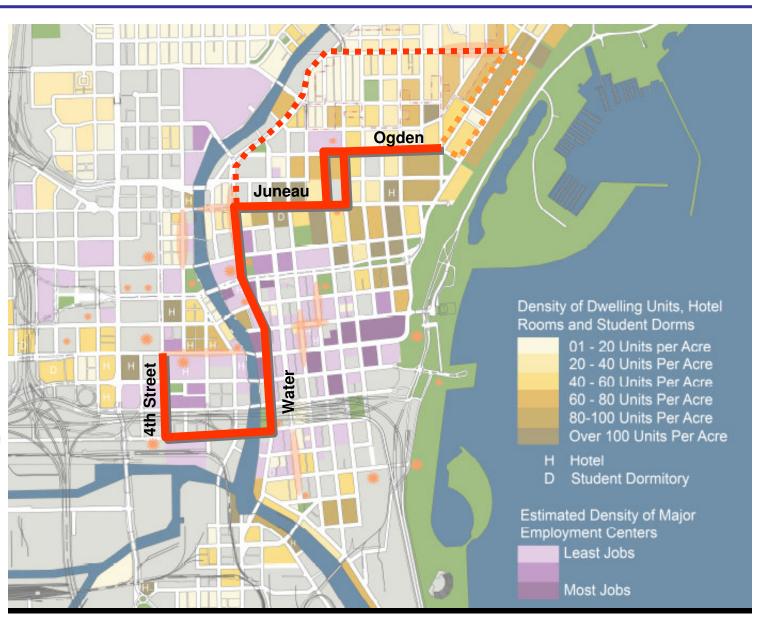


# **Streetcar Alignment #2**

Ogden/Prospect to 4th/Wisconsin Route = 2.57 miles

= = sub-option

= = possible extension

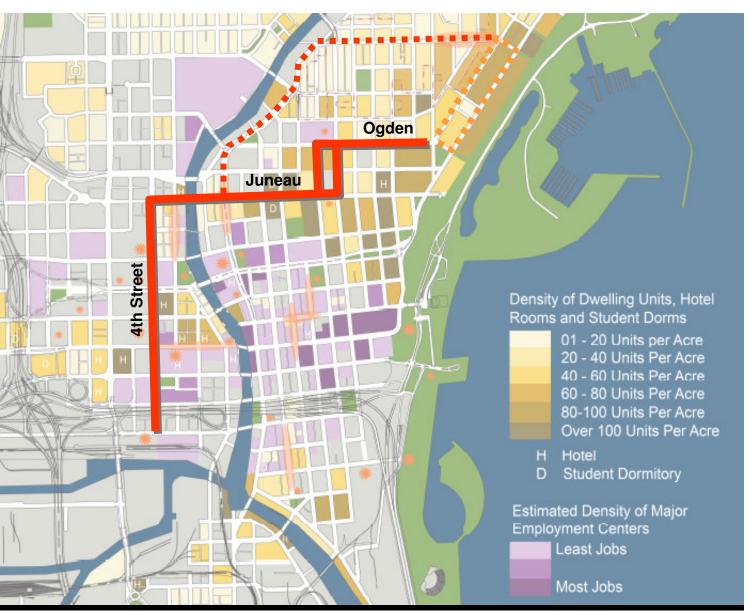


# **Streetcar Alignment #3**



**= =** = sub-option

= = possible extension



#### **Potential Future Extensions**

#### West

- Marquette: 1.5 miles

#### Northwest

- The Brewery: 0.9 miles

Bronzeville: 1.45 miles (adtn'l)Fondy/North: 1.1 miles (adtn'l)

#### North

Riverwest: 0.8 miles

#### Northeast

North Avenue: 1.1 miles

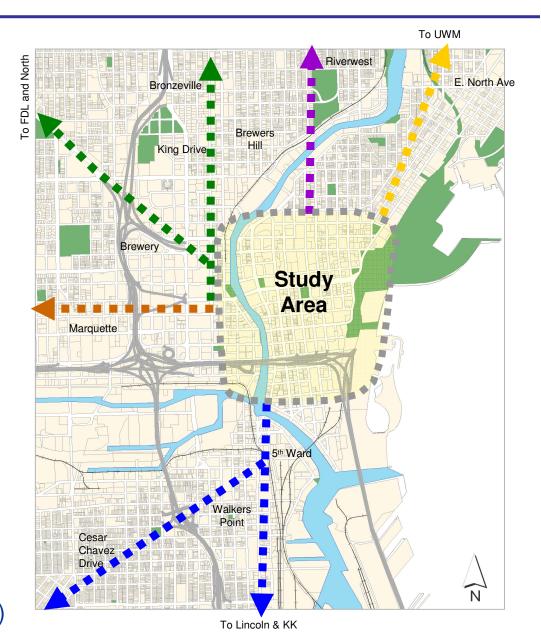
- UWM: 1.2 miles (adtn'l)

#### South

- Greenfield: 1.35 miles

- Lincoln/KK: 1.1 miles (adtn'l)

- Cesar Chavez: 1.5 miles (adtn'l)



# YOU ARE INVITED

Please attend a public information open house to review and comment on plans for a DOWNTOWN STREETCAR.

Thursday, October 8, 2009, 3-7 p.m. Zeidler Municipal Building, Broadway Entrance Lobby Area 841 N. Broadway, Milwaukee

The location is wheelchair accessible. Sign language and foreign language interpretation will be made available upon request. Persons with special needs are asked to call (414) 299-9700 or e-mail meetings@milwaukeeconnector.com a minimum of 72 hours in advance so that appropriate arrangements may be made.

www.MilwaukeeConnector.com

